

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-16 were pending in the present application. Claims 1-16 were subject to a restriction requirement in parent application U.S. Serial No. 09/689,992. Group II of that restriction requirement included claim 4, "drawn to a substantially pure RDE-1 polypeptide, and a method of preparing an RNAi agent by incubating dsRNA in the presence of RDE-1 and RDE-4 polypeptides". Claim 13 of patent application was not included in group II although being drawn to a method of preparing an RNAi agent by incubating dsRNA in the presence of RDE-1 and RDE-4 polypeptides. Notably, claim 13 was not included in any group of the restriction requirement in parent application U.S. Serial No. 09/689,992. Applicants respectfully assert that claim 13 was intended to be included in group II but inadvertently not recited. Applicant claims the subject matter of group II of parent application U.S. Serial No. 09/689,992 for the purposes of the instant divisional patent application.

Claims 1-3, 5-12 and 14-16 have been canceled without prejudice for further prosecution in one or more divisional applications. Claim 4 has been amended. New claims 17-27 have been added. Accordingly, claims 4, 13 and 17-27 will be pending after entry of the instant amendment.

Support for the newly added claims can be found throughout the specification including the originally filed claims. More specifically, support for new claims 17-27 can be found at, for example, page 3, lines 6-7; page 11, lines 1-6; page 12, line 16; page 18, line 1; page 28, line 22 and Figure 4B. No new matter has been added.

The Sequence Listing (computer-readable form and paper copy) submitted herewith replaces the Sequence Listing filed in parent application U.S. Serial No. 09/689,992. The replacement sequence listing includes nucleotide and/or amino acid sequences set forth in the specification and/or drawings as originally filed in parent application U.S. Serial No. 09/689,992 and is in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.824. The following table sets forth all sequences included

in the replacement sequence listing as well as an indication as to where support for each sequence can be found in the parent application (as originally filed).

SEQ ID NO:	Sequence	Support
1	<i>rde-1</i> genomic sequence	Figure 5A-C
2	<i>rde-1</i> cDNA sequence	Figure 6A-D
3	RDE-1 amino acid sequence	Figure 6A-D
4	<i>rde-4</i> cDNA sequence	Figure 10A-B
5	RDE-4 amino acid sequence	Figure 10A-B
6	ZWILLE (regions of homology with RDE-1)	Figure 4B
7	Sting (regions of homology with RDE-1)	Figure 4B
8	consensus sequence	Figure 11
9	F48F7.1 (regions of homology with RDE-1)	Figure 4B
10	eIF2C (regions of homology with RDE-1)	Figure 4B
11	X1RBPA (regions of homology with RDE-4)	Figure 11
12	HsPKR (regions of homology with RDE-4)	Figure 11
13	RDE-1 (internal portion)	Figure 4B
14	RDE-4 (internal portion)	Figure 11

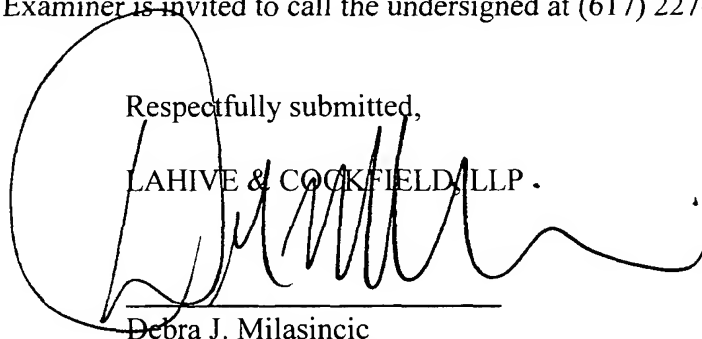
No new matter has been added. Any amendments to and/or cancellation of the claims was done solely to expedite the prosecution of the application. Applicants reserve the right to pursue the claims as originally filed in this or a separate application(s).

**CONCLUSION**

In view of the amendments and remarks set forth above, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. If there are any remaining issues or the Examiner believes that a telephone conversation with Applicants' Attorney would be helpful in expediting prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at (617) 227-7400.

Respectfully submitted,

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